

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-08 FEAE-00

FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

AGRE-00 IOE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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O R 071117Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9125

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAIRO 14833

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, EG

SUBJECT: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS - EGYPT

REF: (A) STATE 205678, (B) CAIRO 14645

1. SUMMARY. MFA OFFICIAL IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFFS COMMENTED ON GOE'S ROLE AS MODERATING INFLUENCE ON ECONOMIC ISSUES WITHIN G-77. HE CHARACTERIZED CIEC RESULTS AS MIDWAY BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE, NOTING NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ISSUES REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED. EARLY APPROACH TO CONSIDERATION OF THESE ISSUES, FOLLOWING UNGA DELIVERATION, IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. ACCORDING MFA OFFICIAL, GOE IS CONSIDERABLY INTERESTED IN QUESTION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN LDCS (PROVISIONAL UNGA AGENDA ITEM NOT MENTIONED REF A) AND RELATIONSHIP OF THIS EXERCISE TO "RESPONSIBILITIES" OF DCS. END SUMMARY.

2. E/C COUNS AND ECONOFF DISCUSSED ECONOMIC ISSUES COVERED PARA 12 REFTEL A WITH MFA DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS HOSNY ON SEPTEMBER 6. FOLLOWING PRESENTATION BY EMBOFFS OF
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TALKING POINTS, AS APPROPRIATE, MFA OFFICIAL REVIEWED MULTI-LATERAL ECONOMIC SETTING, ISSUES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO GOE AND EXPECTED UNGA BEARING ON FOLLOW-UP OF NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES. THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION AMBASSADOR HOSNY STRESSED EGYPT'S DESIRE TO PURSUE CONSTRUCTIVE NON-CONFRONTATIONAL NEGOTIATING PATH, NOTING SIGNIFICANT MODERATING ROLE THAT GOE PLAYS ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS WITHIN

G-77. HE CITED INDIA AND PAKISTAN AS EXAMPLES OF OTHER NATIONS WITH LIKE ATTITUDE.

3. CIEC ASSESSMENT. AMBASSADOR HOSNY ASSESSED CIEC RESULTS AS MIXED, NEITHER SUCCESS NOR FAILURE. HE CITED PROGRESS ENCOURAGING TO GOE ON COMMON FUND, OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, ACCESS TO CAPITAL MARKETS AND AGRICULTURAL ISSUES. RESULTS WERE STILL SHORT OF GOE EXPECTATIONS, HOWEVER; EVEN RECOGNIZING INHIBITING FACTORS AT PLAY ON DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' POSITIONS, RESULTS FELL SHORT OF WHAT GOE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SEE IN CERTAIN KEY AREAS, NOTABLY DEBT. GOE IS GENERALLY DIAPPOINTEED WITH CIEC RESULTS IN "STRUCTURAL AREAS", WHICH MFA OFFICIAL DEFINES AS THOSE RELATING TO SUCH ISSUES AS LDC ACCESS TO DC MARKETS, REDEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRY, AND IMPROVED TERMS OF TRADE. HE SEES NO REPEAT NO PROGRESS IN THESE AREAS.

4. GOE VIEWS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES MENTIONED REF A ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. COMMON FUND - AMB. HOSNY SAID RESULTS REPRESENT POSITIVE EFFORT, BUT WERE OF COURSE "IN PRINCIPLE" ONLY; SUBJECT NEEDS FOLLOWUP URGENTLY, INITIALLY AT UNCTAD NOVEMBER MEETING.

B. DEBT. THIS IS CRUCIAL ITEM TO EGYPT, ACCORDING MFA OFFICIAL, AND IS ONE OF MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES GLOBALLY BECAUSE OF GENERAL DC-LDC FINANCIAL SITUATION. GOE IS CONCERNED, FURTHER, THAT POSITIONS AGREED UPON IN NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE SHOULD BE GENERALIZED, COVERING LDC-"SOCIALIST" COUNTRY DEBT RELATIONSHIPS, AS WELL AS KIND OF PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT CIEC. CONFIDENTIAL

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EGYPT IS VITALLY CONCERNED WITH GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF AS ONE OF "COUNTRIES MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED" AND IS INTERESTED IN FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF DEBT RESCHEDULING. IN ANY SERIOUSLY DETERIORATING SITUATION, GOE BELIEVES DEBT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN ON MULTILATERAL LEVEL AND AS ALREADY NOTED, SHOULD BE BINDING ON "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES.

C. ENERGY. GOE SEES SOME PROGRESS IN THIS AREA. BOTH DCS AND LDCS NOW UNDERSTAND MAGNITUDE OF WORLD ENERGY SUPPLY PROBLEM AND HAVE AGREED TO MEASURES NEEDED TO INCREASE ENERGY RESOURCES. NO REPEAT NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON FUTURE ENERGY CONSULTATION, HOWEVER, AND DIALOGUE IN GOE VIEW SHOULD BE CONTINUED, NOT RELEGATED TO BACKGROUND OR NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION.

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE POLICY POSITIONS, GOE EXPECTED AND HOPED FOR SUBSTANTIVE DELIBERATIONS ON CIEC AT RESUMED 31ST UNGA, ACCORDING AMB. HOSNY. GOE HAD PLANNED TO RAISE IMPORTANCE OF SPECIFIC TIME TABLE FOR FOLLOWUP TO NORTH/SOUTH DIALOUGE AND HAD ANTICIPATED SUPPORTING MOVE TO DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVELY AREAS IN WHICH LITTLE PROGRESS HAD MEEN MADE AT CIEC. AREAS CITED IN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAIRO 14833

THIS REGARD BY MFA OFFICIAL ARE DEBT, ACCESS TO DC
MARKETS AND TERMS OF LDC TRADE WITH DCS. GOVERNMENT IS AWARE
OF NEED FOR PREPARATION, HOWEVER, AND HAS CONCLUDED THAT TIME
MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR USEFUL DETAILED DISCUSSIONS EARLIER
ENVISIONED. GOE NOW, IN LIGHT OF LACK OF NECESSARY PREPARATION
ON SUBSTANCE, IS OF OPINION RESUMED SESSION SHOULD AT MINIMUM
DEFINE A SPECIFIC TIME TABLE FOR FOLLOW UP; PENDING QUESTIONS
SHOULD NOT BE FURTHER DELAYED. RESUMED 31ST SESSION SHOULD ISSUE
DIRECTIVES IN THIS REGARD TO SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SUCH AS UNCTAD
AND IBRD. HE STRESSED URGENCY WITH WHICH MOST LDCE VIEW NEED
FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS IN RESOLVING OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

6. GENRRAL QUESTION OF NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE FOLLOWUP AND
PREPARATION FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY ARE CONNECTED,
IN AMB. HOSNY'S ESTIMATION. THIRTY SECOND UNGA SHOULD ESTABLISH
MEASURES FOR STRATEGY PREPARATION. IT IS TIMELY NOW THAT AD HOC
SPECIALIZED AGENCY COMMITTEES PREVIOUSLY SET UP BE TRANSFORMED
INTO REGULARIZED ORGANIZATIONS OFR INTENSIVE WORK DURING
IE1978-80 PERIOD. SUCH PROCESS WOULD PROVIDE ANOTHER USEFUL FORUM
FOR CONTINUATION OF DIALOGUE. GOE AGREES WITH US POSITION ON
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IMPORTANCE OF ROLE FOR ECOSOC COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING,

TOGETHER WITH OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

7. AMB. HOSNY RAISED POINT OF 32ND UNGA PROVISIONAL AGENDA ITEM NO. 70 ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN LDCS. GOE TAKES VIEW THAT THIS SUBJECT IS BECOMING ONE OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE AND HOLDS POTENTIAL FOR CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT FIELD. GOE IS ENCOURAGED BY POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON THIS SUBJECT SHOWN BY DCS. MFA OFFICIAL CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT LDC COOPERATION SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS SUBJECT SUITABLE FOR ISOLATION FROM CONCERNS OF DCS; RATHER, IT IS AN AREA LENDING ITSELF TO INCREASED LDC-DC COOPERATION AND FOR MANIFESTATION OF INCREASINGLY-RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL NATIONS. ATTEMPTS OF LDCS TO INCREASE MUTUAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS DO NOT, IN HIS OPINION, RELIEVE DCS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROVISION OF TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

8. AMB. HOSNY CLOSED DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFFS ON NOTE REITERATING GOE'S INTENTION TO SPEAK AS VOICE OF MODERATION WITHIN G-77 COUNCILS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT CORDIAL COOPERATION WITH US DELEGATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA COULD BE CONTINUED TO MUTUAL ADVANTAGE. HE REMARKED AGAIN, HOWEVER, THAT LACK OF DEFINITE TIME TABLE FOR CONTINUATION OF NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE WILL LEAD TO IMPATIENCE ON PART OF "SOME" LEAST DEVELOPED MEMBERS OF G-77 AND TO CONSEQUENT LESSENING OF GOE'S ABILITY TO INFLUENCE THOSE COUNTRIES TOWARD CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATING STANCE.
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Message Attributes

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